

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07 INRE-00 SSO-00  
/021 W

-----115673 191518Z /53

O 191438Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4003

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 4551

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

1. MEDIA NOTED BEGIN VISIT DRAWING ON WIRE  
SERVICE REPORTS AND VOA. COMMENTARY FOLLOWED REGULAR  
MORNING NEWSCAST OF DAMASCUS RADIO TO EFFECT THAT DESPITE  
OPTIMISM FOLLOWING PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENT AND  
THOSE BY OTHER RANKING AMERICAN OFFICIALS AND DESPITE  
ISRAELI PROPAGANDA, "OBSERVORS" FEEL PEACE  
IS STILL DISTANT. THEY FEAR AMERICAN AND ISRAELI  
PLANS MAY AIM AT GIVING ISRAEL MORE TIME TO EXCUTE  
SETTLEMENT PLANS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, BUILD NEW  
COLINIES, BRING IN MORE IMMIGRANTS AND STRENGTHEN  
THEMSELVES MILITARILY. RADIO CALLED FOR VIGILANCE.

2. IN COMMENTARY ENTITLED "ARE ONE-SIDED STEPS SUFFICIENT  
TO REACH PESCE" TISHRINE COLUMNIST JIBRAN  
KOURIYYE CALLED RUMOURED BEGIN MAP "MEW ELEMENT IN ISRAELI  
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POLICY" WHICH MIGHT BE "AMOUNG PRESSURES BROUGHT  
TO BEAR ON ARABS TO FORCE MORE YIELDING BY THEM."  
REITERATED BIEW THAT SYRIA HAS ACTIVELY PURSUED PEACE.

3. QUOTE. SYRIA ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN ARAB PEACE  
PUSH THAT STARTED INTERNATIONAL PEACE EFFORTS AND HAS  
COOPERATED WITH ALL PARTIES WHICH SHOWS DESIRE TO

HELP MOVEMENT TOWARDS PESCE. SYRIA HAS SHOWN DURING ALL STAGES THAT IT REALLY WANTS PEACE AND IS COOPERATION FULLY TO THAT END. BUT IT WILL NOT AT SAME TIME DEPART FROM ITS BASIC POSITION, ITS ADHERENCE TO UN RESOLUTIONS AND TWO CONDITIONS OF PEACE - WITHDRAWAL AND RIGHTS. ALL EFFORTS IN PAST HAVE FAILED AND WILL FAIL IN FUTURE TO MAKE SYRIA SURRENDER CARDA FROM ITS HAND OR PUT CASE IN HANDS OF OTHERS BESIDE ARAB ONES. NOR WILL SYRIA YIESL ARAB RIGHTS OR UNDERTAKE TO SURRENDER IN AMTTTERS THAT ARE THE ESSENCE OF SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE. END PUOTE.

4. AL-BAATH COLUMNIST ASSAD BOEID IN "BEFORE PROPOSED GENEVA CONFERENCE, BRZENSKI KICKS BALL INTO ARAB LAPS" DISCUSSED SPLIT BETWEEN ARAB AND ISRAELI VIEWS ON INCLUSION OF PLAESTINIANS AT GENEVA. COMMENTED ON BRZEZINSKE. QUOTE. LET US LOOK FOR UNDERSTANDING IN BRZEZINSKI'S STATEEMTNS. HE SAYS, "ARAB COUNTRIES SHOULD SOLVE PROBLEM OF PLAESTINIAN STATE FIRST BEFORE OFFERING IT TO ISRAEL." WHAT DO WE UNDERSTAND FROM THIS? THE THING TO BE UNDERSTOOD IS THAT HE (BRZEZINSKI) DOES NOT THINK THAT ARABS ARE IN AGREEMENT ON FORM OF PALESTINIAN STATE. THEREFORE HE IS KICKING BALL INTO ARAB LAPS AND WANTS ENTIRE WORLD INCLUDING EUROPE AND USSR TO SEE THAT ARABS ARE ASKING FOR SOMETHING ON WHICH THEY DISAGREE AMONG THEMSELVES. THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT POINTS OF AMERICAN UNCLASSIFIED

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STRATEGY. SPLITTING THE ARABS WAS, AND STILL IS, THE MOST IMPORTANT GOAL OF AMERICAN STRATEGY AND ARAB SOLIDARITY IS MEANT TO BE IN RHETORIC AND NOT IN ACTION. HALL

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Review Markings:**  
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